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SUPER HEROES FROM THE MIND OF

CLIVE BARKER

**AT LAST!
THE SENSES
SHATTERING
REUNION!**

EctoKid

**DEX FINDS
HIS FATHER--**

**--AND A WHOLE
LOT MORE!**

DIRECT EDITION

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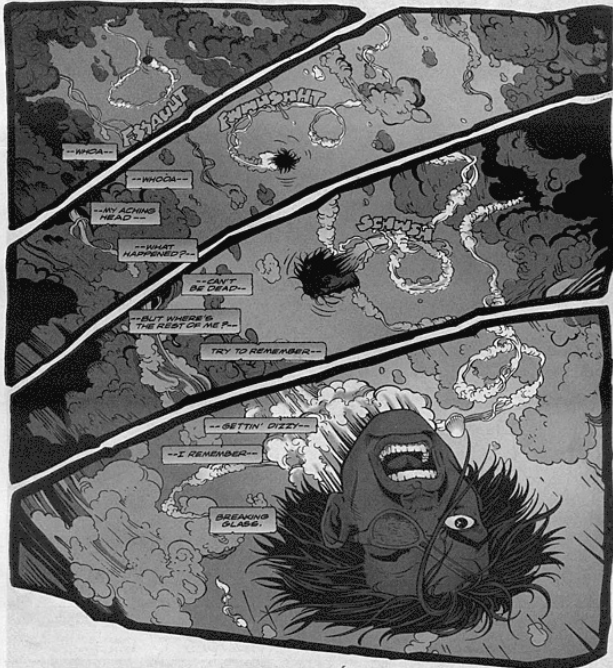


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OBI

SKRCE 93
DVORAK

MEET DEX MUNGO, SOMETIME THIEF, FULL-TIME STREET RAT; HALF-HUMAN, AND HALF-GHOST. ENTER HIS REALM, THE ECTOSPHERE — A WONDROUS AND OFTEN DEADLY PLACE OF FANTASY, HORROR AND GRITTY ACTION, BETWEEN THE HERE AND THE HEREAFTER.



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HIGHWAY 61 REVISITED

COLORS MIKE THOMAS	INKS BOB DYORAK	PENCILS STEVE SKROCE	WRITER LARRY WACHOWSKI	CREATOR CLIVE BARKER
LETTERS GREGG	EDITOR MARC McLAURIN	CONSULTING EDITOR MALCOLM SMITH	EXECUTIVE EDITOR CARL POTTS	CHIEF EDITOR TOM DE FALCO





OH GOD SAYS TO ABRAHAM, KILL ME A SON.
ABE SAYS MAN YOU MUST BE PUTTIN' ME ON.

THAT SONG KEEPS
PLAYING IN MY
HEAD---

--EVERYTHING
HAPPENED SO
FAST--

KA-DOOM

--GOTTA PUT THE
PIECES BACK
TOGETHER--

--SORT THE IMAGES
LIKE FLASHBULBS
GOING OFF --

WELL ABE SAYS WHERE YOU WANT THIS KILLING DONE.
GOD SAYS OUT ON HIGHWAY 61.

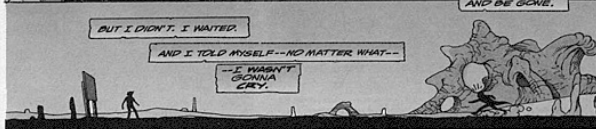
BUT THAT
SONG--

--THAT
SONG--

THAT'S
IT.

THAT'S WHERE
IT STARTED--

THE END OF HIGHWAY 61.





OH GOD--
SON-- IT'S YOU--
IT'S REALLY
YOU!



I TRY NOW TO REMEMBER
WHAT IT FELT LIKE.

HIS ARMS AROUND ME--

I TRY TO REMEMBER ALL
THE LITTLE THINGS.

THE TEXTURE OF HIS CLOTHES.

THE SMELL OF THEM.

IF I DON'T REMEMBER
THE LITTLE THINGS--

--WHAT WILL TELL
ME THAT IT WAS
SOMETHING MORE--

--THAN JUST
A DREAM?



JEEZ, LOOK AT ME BAWLING--
LISTEN, I HAVE A PRESENT
FOR YOU, BUT I HAVE TO GET
IT TO YOU LATER.



HIGHWAY
61

OH! AMBIDEX--

DEX,
JUST
DEX.

OH, WELL. C'MON.
I WANT YOU TO
MEET SOME OF
MY FRIENDS.



HEY, EVERYBODY,
I WANT YOU TO
MEET SOMEONE.
THIS IS MY SON,
DEX.

YOU
ALREADY
KNOW
JINDRAK.

YO--JINDRAK? WHAT
HAPPENED TO YOU?

THE ETHERITES,
YOUNG DEX,
THE ETHERITES.
BUT IT'S
A STORY
FOR
ANOTHER
TIME!

OI, DEX.

THIS IS NICOLA
SACCO AND
BARTOLOMEO
VANZETTI.

YOU
RE
JIM
AND

AND THE MENACING
FIGURE ON THE END
THERE IS FRED
HAMPTON.

REAL GOOD
TO MEET
YOU.



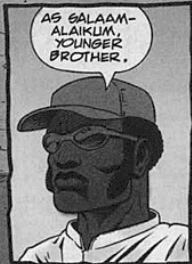


eh, toto.

PROBABLY
COGNIZE
MY DEAN
AND JANIS.



HIYA,
CUTIE.



AS SALAM-
ALAIKUM,
YOUNGER
BROTHER.



I WAS TRYING TO REMEMBER
WHAT I HAD EXPECTED TO
HAPPEN.

TO SIT DOWN AND JUST
TALK TO HIM?

TO ASK HIM POINT-
BLANK, WHY HAD HE
FATHERED ME?

WAS I JUST ANOTHER
PART OF HIS PLAN?



THERE
IT IS!

WHAT HAD I
EXPECTED?



IT WASN'T A SKINNY
GEEKY GUY WITH
GLASSES.

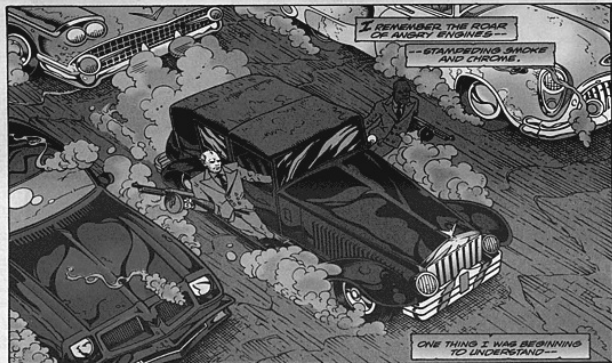
WHY WOULD A GHOST
WEAR GLASSES?



IT WASN'T JANIS JOPLIN,
FRED HARTEN OR ANY
OF THEM.



AND IT WASN'T WHAT
HAPPENED NEXT.



AN, NO. YOU GOTTA
BE KIDDIN' ME. THE
TAPE AGAIN?

LEO, I GET NERVOUS
WHEN YOU PLAY
THAT TAPE.

BOB DYLAN'S
"GREATEST HITS" 1991

THIS IS IT, GUYS, WHERE
IT ALL HAPPENING, LIKE
GOD SAYS, OUT ON
HIGHWAY 67.

DAD, WHO
ARE THOSE
GUYS?

A TROLL
NAMED
GRUMBLE
AND HIS
BOONS.

HE'S LIKE A
LOAN SHARK--
I OWE HIM--
MY SOUL.

CAN YOU
USE
THIS?

WHERE DID ALL
THIS STUFF
COME FROM?

WE MADE IT, DEX. ECTOPLASM
IS ENERGY, YOU CAN CREATE
ALMOST ANYTHING. I THOUGHT
YOU WOULD HAVE FIGURED
THAT OUT ALREADY.

DAI FRATELLO
FA LO?

O.K. VA BENE
MEH, MEH, MEH.





FAT HOOD

I CAN SMELL YOU, LITTLE BOY.

YOU CAN SMELL ME? HOW--WHO SAID THAT?

HEY, BABY, RELAX. THAT'S JUST THAT FAT PIG GRUNGE PLAYING MIND GAMES.

HERE, HAVE SOME. I MADE IT MYSELF.

I REMEMBER THE TASTE OF JANIS JOPLIN'S SOUL. WOW.

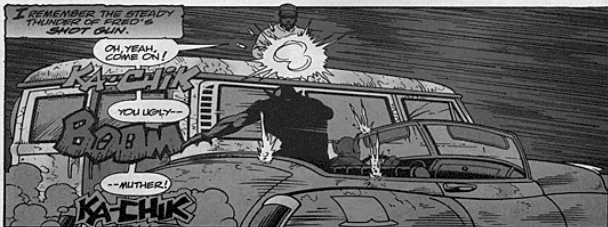
GLOO
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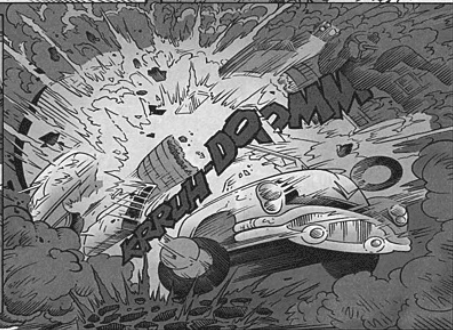
AT FIRST I DIDN'T KNOW WHY SHE THREW OUT THE BOTTLE.

BUT NOW, I GUESS THAT'S WHO SHE WAS.

KR-KRISH

WHAT SHE IS.







DEMON DEBRIS LITTERED THE ECTOSPHERIC HIGHWAY, JIMMY WAS PUTTING EVERYTHING HE HAD INTO THE VW.

I THOUGHT WE WERE HOME FREE.

NOW WE HAVE THEM.

LISTEN, THE AURAT IS STILL WITH MY BODY. THOSE AUGUSTINE IDIOTS NEVER REALIZED I KEPT IT WITH ME.

IT WAS HIDDEN INSIDE MY GUITAR CASE IN THE TRUNK OF MY CAR.

BUT WHERE IS YOUR BODY?

I DON'T KNOW. AIN'T THAT A TRIP? THEY DUMPED IT SOMEWHERE. YOU HAVE TO FIND IT!

LEO, WE GOT A PROBLEM!





THAT'S WHEN
IT HAPPENED--

--THE FACE
SMASHED--

--SNOWFLAKES
OF GLASS--

SPKKRZZASSH!



DEX, GET
OUT OF
HERE!!



--THE ROLLS, COMING
UP BEHIND US--

ITS WHEELS--THUMPETY THUMP--

I JUST FOUND
YOU, DAD! I CAN'T--

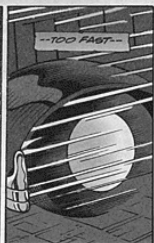


GO DEX, PLEASE,
IF YOU EVER WANT
TO SEE ME AGAIN--

--KEPT COMING--



--THUMPETY
THUMP--



--TOO FAST--



GO!

--TOO
LATE.





I FIGURED IT WAS
ALL OVER.

LIKE THE SONG,
ALL DONE.



BUT THEN I REMEMBERED,
ECTOPLASM IS ENERGY,
HE SAID.

YOU CAN TRANSFORM IT,
ABSORB IT.

BUT YOU CAN'T DESTROY IT
THE WAY YOU CAN DESTROY
FLESH.

THAT MEANS THEY'RE STILL
ALIVE. OR WHATEVER.



NOW WHAT DAD NEEDS IS FOR
ME TO FIND THE ALURAT.



WHICH MEANS IT'S TIME TO GO--

HOME.

A REAL BRIDGE.

I FIND MY BODY RIGHT WHERE
I LEFT IT HIDDEN OFF OF THE
REAL HIGHWAY 61.

AND THE IMAGES
ARE ALREADY
STARTING TO FACE.

DID IT EVEN HAPPEN?

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS,
DID I REALLY MEET MY
FATHER?

DID HE REALLY PUT HIS
ARMS AROUND ME?

OR WAS IT JUST A DREAM--

WHAT
THE--??

HOW DID YOU DO IT?
MORE OF YOUR FRIENDS?

THIS WAS YOURS, WASN'T
IT? FITS PRETTY GOOD.

"I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU"

"BUT I'LL HAVE TO GET
IT TO YOU LATER."

THANKS,
DAD.

IT MEANS
A LOT.

DEX RICKS EVERYTHING FOR THE LIFE
OF HIS MOM, WHEN HE CONFRONTS
THE AUGUSTINES IN:
"YOU'VE ONLY GOT ONE MOTHER!"

PLEASE SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
RAZORLINE
c/o MARVEL
387 PARK AVE. SO.
NEW YORK, NY 10016

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EDITOR

Ectokid

Just for fun, we're sending everyone who wrote in this month an over-sized photostatic reproduction of the cover to this issue, signed by Steve, Bob, and Larry. Just another perk to getting us your comments. Keep 'em coming!

Dear Ectokid,

O.K., so we're off! I was Impressed by the origin of Dex. I expected more in the beginning, but now see that the beginning was not the whole story at all. It's not the story I first thought it was, so I will stay with the Kid — at least for awhile.

Doug Ackert
28 East Adams Street
East Islip, NY 11730

Thanks for writing, Doug. The whole story is far from being told. As soon as the next issue, Dex faces challenges that make what has come so far seem bland; seem impossible? Stick around!!!

To the Razorline team,

I am a very big fan of Clive Barker, so when I saw that he was going to have four new comics, I couldn't wait for them to come out. I heard about the comics just before I saw Clive's art show in NYC. At the show, I got more info. From then on I was always asking comic shops about dates for their releases. Well, they have arrived and now I have something to look forward to every week. If asked to choose one as my favorite, I would say ECTOKID. I love everything about this comic.

When I first read about them, I was a little weary about Hyperkind and HOKUM & HEX. I am not really into the super hero-type comics. Then I got the first issues and found out how wrong I was! These are great stories. I should never have doubted the mind of Clive Barker. Now I just finished SAINT SINNER #3 (when I sat down to read this, I should have known that I would need my brain to read it, unlike many comics out there). So reading it through, I realized that I was going to need to concentrate on what I was reading. I did have to go back and read it again, and then I realized — this is brilliant. The only criticism I can give is DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING! Everything is just fine.

Mark Gyssek
12 Davis Place Apt. #1
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

It's always good to hear from a reader who can think, Mark. Thanks for writing. But if you think we've stretched your mind as far as we can...guess again. The stories only get better from here!

Dear Razorline,

I have to confess that I thought it might be a little premature to write to you with my impressions. After all, the Barkerverse is still in a molten stage and the characters are still establishing themselves (which is great, by the way. I would much rather

have a sense of the mysteries to come than have everything spelled out in the first issue.) I thought I'd wait a little farther down the Razorline to comment. But the Razorline is so good, I decided to write now.

It might not have been intentional, but I like the way the four titles balance each other in tone, making the whole greater than the sum of its parts. HYPERKIND (body), ECTOKID (spirit), HOKUM & HEX (humor), SAINT SINNER (sadness). It'll be interesting to see how you treat the cross-overs.

I also love that these books don't depend on steroids and automatic weaponry. The momentum of the books are elsewhere: good stories!!!

Now some details: the temptation to have Dex Mungo meet famous dead people is, I'm sure, very great indeed and presents lots of possibilities. There's a danger, though, of turning it into an ectoplasmic "Young Indiana Jones." And you know what happened to that!

Exploit the deeper meanings of comedy and humor in HOKUM & HEX, the trickster Mythos that Clive mentions. Isn't laughter literally a healing force in some medical cases? Give Trip confidence and really go to town with the potential of his character. To reiterate something I said at the top, don't tell us too much. Let us keep a sense of unexplained depths in the Barkerverse and unexplained mysteries.

What none of the previous criticisms make clear, however, is how much I'm enjoying watching the Razorline slowly grow and expand. I'm looking forward to what you've got planned down the road. To criticize such a project at all seems ungrateful. Thanks for all of the hard work.

Now can you maybe hint at some of the things around the corner?

Robert W. Getz
1411 Sinkler Road
Warminaster, PA 18974

Sure can, Robert. The future is bright. In the near future we look forward to the first all-inclusive Razorline crossover. In it, get ready to be blown away! The Earth is in danger, not of being destroyed, but of being subsumed by a being of overwhelming proportions! Trip Munroe (HOKUM & HEX) learns to be a hero. Philip Fetter (SAINT SINNER) falls in love. It's an event that will change the boundaries of the Barkerverse forever and it all starts in HYPERKIND #10. Be there or we'll talk about you!!!

Dear Ectokid,

This is a book I can read and read and read! The art is as eye-grabbing as to make this candy for the soul, but Steve Skroce is powerful enough to make this more than just fluff. Steve Skroce has a future in comics, currently producing some of the best art Marvel has printed in a long time.

Now, as to the Razorline titles...they're great!!! Over all, these are the best books ever to grace the shops. I'm reading them all. HYPERKIND is my second favorite book, with HOKUM & HEX coming in an easy third, leaving SAINT SINNER to come in last, but still far from a book I don't like. I collect all four books, and when I go to the shop consider them the most important of the books I buy. Keep up the good work.

But I do love ECTOKID the most. What I love so much about it is Dex and his amazing ability to manipulate ectoplasm. This is just too cool a power!!! How powerful is ectoplasm in the physical world? I've got to know! Are we going to learn more about his powers? Please...Please...please... I'll be reading!!!

John Blighmes
(Address withheld by request)

Good to have you as a reader, John. Thanks for writing. We're glad you're interested in our pal Dex. Get ready, because in the next few months, Dex learns quite a bit more about what he can and can't do with ectoplasm. You don't want to miss out, do you? Then don't miss an issue!!!

NEXT:

At last! Armed with the location of the Aurat, Dex confronts Ice and Tom Augustine! Will he trade the power of the Aurat for the life of his mother? It's personal tragedy, or the end of the world in...

"You've Only Got One Mother!"

CUTTING EDGE ALERT!

Next week in
HOKUM & HEX #6:

Trip is back in New York City; a media celebrity! Will all this unwanted attention give the Earth's mightiest mortal magic man a swelled head — or a busted gut? Find out as he goes head-to-head with the champion of Felon Bale, Bloodshed! Part one of four!

ELSEWHERE, ALONG THE
RAZOR'S EDGE:

In SAINT SINNER #6:

The origin of the mysterious refugee from the Ectosphere, Crooked-Face Half-Head, on the eve of a disaster that will shake all the worlds of the Decamund — but the price of averting it may be a child's life!

In HYPERKIND #7:

Armata's near death and her only hope of survival is for the team to solve a riddle locked within a children's rhyme! But even the answers will not prepare them for the dangers on... "The Shining Path... to Amberlance!"